

Howland Wood - Curatorial

Hopkins, Nelson S.

[Williamsville, NY]

1929-1935

PHENIX AIRCRAFT PRODUCTS CO.

MANUFACTURERS OF

HIGH GRADE CELLULOSE DOPES,
VARNISHES AND CEMENTS

FOR AIRCRAFT, RADIO AND SPECIAL PURPOSES

WILLIAMSVILLE, N. Y., U. S. A. April 19, 1929

Mr. Howland Wood,
Curator American Numismatic Society,
156 Broadway,
New York City.

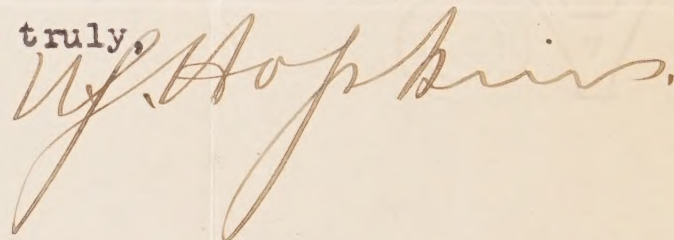
Dear Mr. Wood:

I have recently obtained a few of the Lindberg Buffalo dinner medal and which are for sale as long as they last, as the supply is practically exhausted. The few that I have are all in perfect condition and been well taken care of, and am asking \$2.50 each.

Mr. Gilroy of the Coin Club stated that you might be interested in one of them.

I am,

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in brown ink, appearing to read "N. S. Hopkins", written in a cursive style.

24th April, 1929

Mr. N. S. Hopkins, President,
Phenix Aircraft Products Co.,
Williamsville, N.Y.

Dear Sir:

Your favor is at hand and at the present moment I do not know of any one who would care for one of the Buffalo dinner medals given in honor of Lindbergh. As you may know, we have a specimen, and while there were several collectors of these about a year ago, I do not now know any one actively collecting such medals. However, I will bear in mind that you have a few for sale.

Very truly yours,

Curator

PHENIX AIRCRAFT PRODUCTS CO.

MANUFACTURERS OF

HIGH GRADE CELLULOSE DOPES,

VARNISHES AND CEMENTS

FOR AIRCRAFT, RADIO AND SPECIAL PURPOSES

5565 MAIN STREET

WILLIAMSVILLE, N. Y., U. S. A.

CABLE ADDRESS
"PAPCO"

CODES
BENTLEYS
A. B. C. 5TH

May 6th, 1930

Mr. Howland Wood,
Curator,
American Numismatic Society,
Broadway between 155th & 156th Street,
New York City.

Dear Mr. Wood:

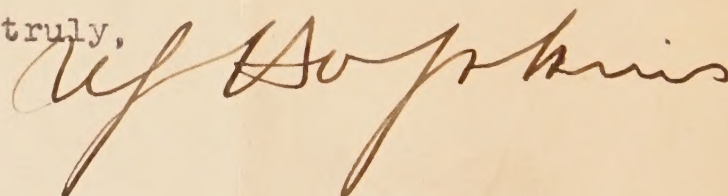
Sometime ago I had some sample sheets from Mr. J.G. Barnett of New York, which were for a Leafax Binder and were printed with a series of numbers on them, which I considered very useful for recording Civil War Cents and similar coins and medals, and have been trying to obtain them but have been unable to.

These were copyrighted by A.J. Traverso and the sheets were 3-3/4" x 6-3/4"; there were four large divisions or sections of 100 squares each, and these about 1/4" square with the numbers printed in them from 1 to 100.

Do you know where these can be obtained, or the address of A.J. Traverso. Any information which you can give on this will be greatly appreciated.

I am,

Yours truly,



NSH:B

May 8, 1930

Mr. N.S. Hopkins
Williamsville, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Hopkins:

Although I know of Joseph Barnett who collects Civil War tokens, I have never heard of the special sheets to go in the Leafax Binder, nor did I ever heard of A. J. Traverso.

Why not write to Joseph Barnett, if this is the man you mean?

His address is Postoffice Box 626, City Hall Station, New York.

Very truly yours,

Curator.

7 3 1

673.81

263.94

409.87

259 44
2 50

975

2

263 94

4 25

8 50

PHENIX AIRCRAFT PRODUCTS CO.

MANUFACTURERS OF

HIGH GRADE CELLULOSE DOPES,
VARNISHES AND CEMENTS
FOR AIRCRAFT, RADIO AND SPECIAL PURPOSES

5565 MAIN STREET

WILLIAMSVILLE, N. Y., U. S. A.

CABLE ADDRESS

"PAPCO"

CODES

BENTLEYS

A. B. C. 5TH

July 18, 1930

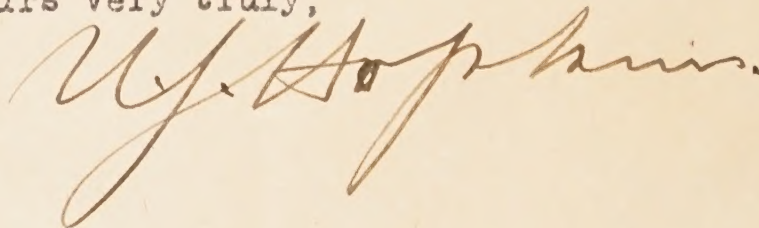
Mr. Howland Wood,
American Numismatic Society,
Broadway,
New York City.

Dear Mr. Wood:

Guttag Bros. are out of Adams' 75 page book on U.S. Store Cards published in 1920, and we would ask if you could advise me Mr. Adams' address and initials and also who published the book and where, or if you have a suggestion as to where it might be possible for me to obtain a copy.

Thanking you in advance for the trouble I may cause you, I am,

Yours very truly,



NSH:B

P.S.

Could you advise me of anyone in New York of whom I can obtain a dozen or two Byrd medals, and possibly Kingsford-Smith in case any are issued. I used to obtain medals of this type from the Richmond Hill collector who recently died.

July 22, 1930

Mr. N.S. Hopkins
Phenix Aircraft Products Co.
Williamsville, N.Y.

Dear Sir:

Edgar H. Adams, Bayville, L. I., New York, is the full address of the author of "U.S. Store Cards". We ourselves have no copies for sale.

There have been various medals issued to Byrd, copies of which are hard to obtain. Whitehead & Hoag Co., 272 Sussex Avenue, Newark, N.J. made ~~them~~ for both Byrd and Kingsford-Smith, little lucky pieces that the Union News Company sold for ten cents each. You might possibly be able to obtain a supply of these.

Very truly yours,

Curator.

PHENIX AIRCRAFT PRODUCTS CO.

MANUFACTURERS OF

HIGH GRADE CELLULOSE DOPES,
VARNISHES AND CEMENTS
FOR AIRCRAFT, RADIO AND SPECIAL PURPOSES

5565 MAIN STREET

WILLIAMSVILLE, N. Y., U. S. A.

February 17, 1931

CABLE ADDRESS

"PAPCO"

CODES

BENTLEYS
A. B. C. 5TH

Mr. Howland Wood,
Curator A.N.S.,
Broadway & 155 St.,
New York City.

Dear Mr. Wood:

I have read with interest in the February Numismatist your remarks on cleaning coins and have tried a number of chemical methods with various results. I would ask if you are free to advise me the composition and proportions of your bath you used and the voltage, as I have been planning to try this method for some time.

I have read and re-read Mr. Fink's book by the Metropolitan Museum but wish to avoid as much experimental work and time as possible.

Does this method clean lead or white metal Civil War tokens like Broas Pie Bakery #5358 or Hastings #5602 or Therbach #6226.

While I am writing, could you give me the date and other markings of what is known as blood money or dollar used to pay the Hessian troops in America. I want to try and obtain one. Were they coined in Britain or Hesse, or what are they.

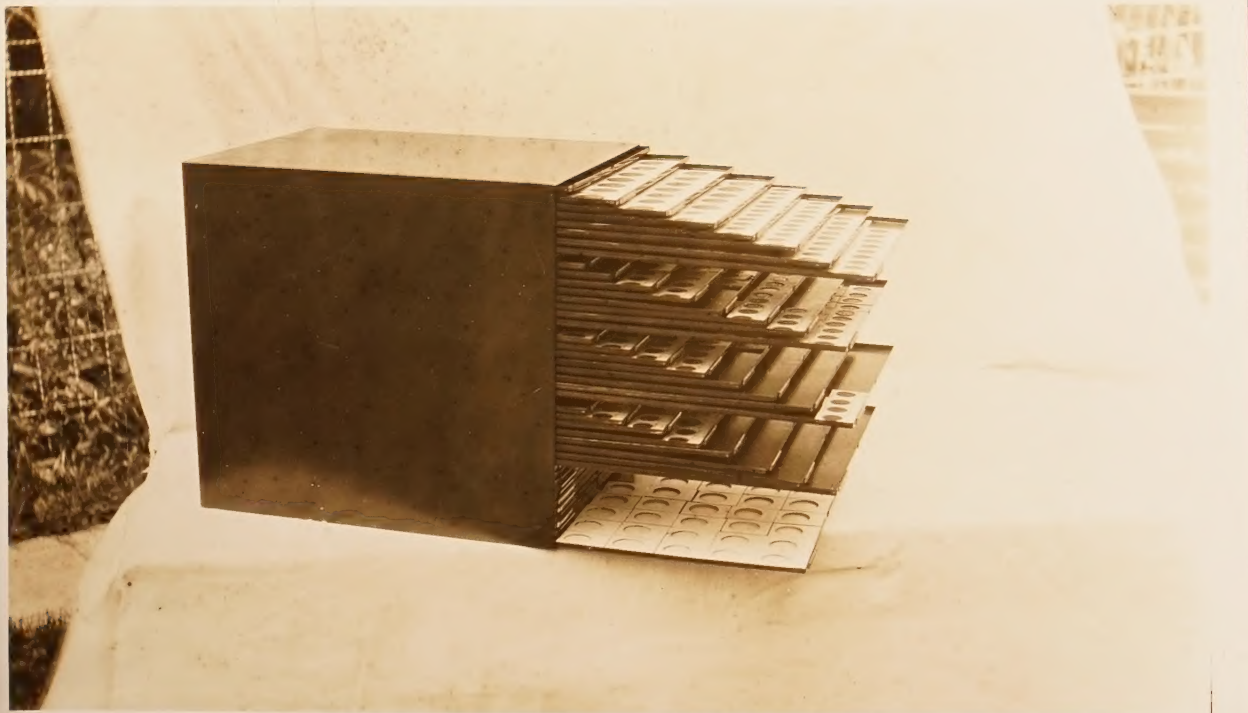
I enclose samples of coin holders I am using and have standardized on six sizes up to those with the 3 inch hole. I also enclose a photo of a steel cabinet I had made for holding the small holders. There are forty-six drawers in this, each 1/4 inch deep, and the overall height is 14-1/2 inches by 12-1/2 inches wide by 16 inches deep. It will hold 5,000 of these small holders, which is as compact a cabinet as I know of. I also enclose two of my 1930 tokens, and will send a couple other metals when I find them. Later I intend to make application for your Society.

I am,

Yours truly,



NSH:B



Feb. 18, 1931

Mr. Nelson S. Hopkins
Williamsville, N.Y.

Dear Sir:

Responding to your letter of the 17th, concerning the cleaning of coins by the Fink process, when we have this work done on a large scale, it is done for us at Columbia University. They attach the apparatus to a direct wire and stop it down to about six volts by the use of carbon lamps or some sort of a reducing machine. Here at the Museum we have a small outfit known as the Kuprox Drimetallic Disc Trickle Charger, made by the Kodak Radio Corporation, Cincinnati. To the positive end there is attached a piece of platinum and on the negative end we connect the coins either by touching each one to the other, or with wire. The solution is caustic soda which comes in sticks in a glass jar, and a three-inch stick is dissolved in a quart of water and sometimes a little more. We have on hand different jars of this solution - one for silver coins and one for copper coins. We can take the tarnish off of silver coins in an hour or so, and clean badly discolored silver coins in the time of about one day to a week or so. Copper coins can be cleaned fairly easily in an hour or so, but if they are badly corroded it may take up-to eight or nine months, depending upon how badly they are oxidized. We find that we cannot leave them in the bath too long, and the slower it is done the better, especially with corrosion. As a matter of fact, if you find the bath works too quickly and a badly corroded coin does not come out as well as you think it should, stop down the current still more. As the solution evaporates you can simply add water. We have found that after taking the coin out of the bath and washing it in water, if it becomes warm, the piece should go back again into the bath. As yet we have not been successful in cleaning lead. I think Mr. Fink is now experimenting on this. The few lead pieces we tried we nearly spoiled.

The so-called Hessian blood taler bears, I think, the date of 1778 and was struck at Hesse Darmstadt. It has a portrait on one side, and a replica of the Hessian Order and eight pointed star with lion in the center, on the reverse.

I happened to show your coin holders to one of our members who is much interested in them, especially the two sizes you sent us. Do you get them made locally, and if so, how much would 1000 of the small size cost, and 500 of the larger size, that is, 1-3/32 wide, and 1 1/2 wide?

Thank you for your personal tokens.

Sincerely yours,

Curator.

PHENIX AIRCRAFT PRODUCTS CO.

MANUFACTURERS OF

HIGH GRADE CELLULOSE DOPES,
VARNISHES AND CEMENTS
FOR AIRCRAFT, RADIO AND SPECIAL PURPOSES

5565 MAIN STREET

WILLIAMSVILLE, N. Y., U. S. A.

CABLE ADDRESS
"PAPCO"CODES
BENTLEYS
A. B. C. 5TH

February 24, 1931

Mr. Howland Wood,
Broadway between 155 & 156th Streets,
New York City.

Dear Mr. Wood:

Received your letter of the 18th and appreciate greatly the detailed information you have given me regarding the Fink process for cleaning coins. It was my intention to use a 6 Volt radio battery and intend to try this method a little later if I get time.

Have you tried, or do you know, whether other metal than platinum, which is expensive, can be used for the positive. If you ever have any success with the cleaning of lead pieces I would be greatly interested to know of it.

Regarding the coin holders, I had these made by one of the best paper novelty concerns in the country and have about 3,000 that I can dispose of at cost of \$10.35 a thousand for the small ones with a 13/16" hole. It is necessary to trim a large portion of these with a pair of shears due to the larger size of the back which was pasted on. I am mailing you a bundle of these with is representative of the lot, and regret they are not all perfect, as a matter of fact the first lot I refused to take due to other defects. *Post Paid*

Of the larger size which have a hole for the large size cent or Jackson Cent, I have made all that I have used by hand, and if I could get a group together so as to order about 5,000 they would cost about \$17.00 a thousand. It is necessary to order about 5,000 to get a reasonable price. I would probably want a couple thousand myself. It is not a difficult matter to make these, as I made a punch from a piece of tool steel tubing and chamfered off the inside to a sharp edge, then hardening it and cutting on a block of wood with the end grain uppermost, and afterward pasting on the back and cutting them to size. My larger sizes up to 3 inches I have made this way.

In the small box I am mailing you I enclose a couple of cupped cents as novelties.

I am,

Yours very truly,



February 26, 1931

Mr. N. S. Hopkins
Williamsville, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Hopkins:

Many thanks for your letter enclosing a few of the coin boxes. Since I wrote you I have talked with others who have used similar things. They say that as the cardboard is made of wood pulp having sulphur in it, the tendency throughout the years is to tarnish any silver coins contained therein. I am making a test of this with some of the boxes. Have you found that your silver coins gradually get tarnished by the use of these boxes? We have cutting dies here but I thought that possibly you could get them done cheaper in quantities than we could make them here.

I will write again later.

Sincerely yours,

Curator.

PHENIX AIRCRAFT PRODUCTS Co.

MANUFACTURERS OF

HIGH GRADE CELLULOSE DOPES,
VARNISHES AND CEMENTS

FOR AIRCRAFT, RADIO AND SPECIAL PURPOSES

5565 MAIN STREET

WILLIAMSVILLE, N.Y., U.S.A.

CABLE ADDRESS
"PAPCO"CODES
BENTLEYS
A. B. C. 5TH

March 3, 1931

Mr. Howland Woods,
Curator, American Numismatic Society,
156th St. & Broadway,
New York City.

Dear Mr. Woods:

I have your letter of February 26th and have heard other statements that the card-board and also the coating which is Bryties would tarnish and discolor coins, but so far I have not noticed any change, which I could lay to the cards. As a matter of fact, most of my collection is not silver although I do have a few pieces.

I did pack a new one cent piece in Bryties and enclosed it in between two of these cardboard holders, and after three months' exposure on the window sill I could not notice any change, so that I am doubtful whether the coating of the card has any influence, as a matter of fact believe it is a protection.

I believe sulphur in gas and fumes from furnace and other sources will discolor quicker than the cardboard will. As a matter of fact about the only cardboard one can obtain is made from sulphite woodpulp and there is a minute quantity of sulphur left in the cardboard. I tried innumerable places to get a cardboard which was made from a woodpulp which was ground instead of being dissolved as is the sulphite. It may be made but I was unable to locate it. This question of tarnish is also a trouble in the manufacture of tissue paper, as you undoubtedly know. That made from sulphite pulp will tarnish, while the non-tarnishing grade is made from a ground pulp and it may be chemically treated.

A few days ago I obtained a small quantity ^{tissue paper} from Dexter Paper Co.(?) of Windsor Locks, Conn., and they had an ad. in the recent Sunday issue of the New York Times advertising its use for wrapping ladies gold and silver slippers so as to prevent tarnishing.

The first lot of these coin holders I had were made by coating the top surface of the back of the holder with glue and this left a layer of glue in the bottom of the hole, or well. I am sending you a few of these, if you care to try them out, but I have been skeptical of them and have not used them as I fear the

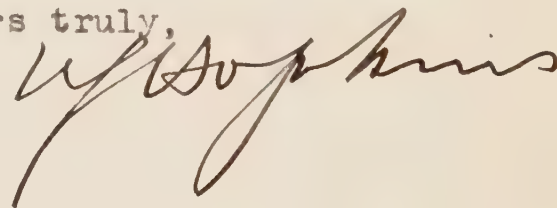
glue would tarnish the coins. I also doubted the advisability of putting cloth or paper discs in the bottom of these holes, as I feared the acid or alkali in the glue would also tarnish the coins. Sometime ago I noticed a couple of my copper tokens had a tarnished streak across them and they had been laying on my desk in a couple of white coin envelopes from Stowell. As a matter of fact, I believe there is as much or more sulphur present in any of the paper envelopes that are used than there is in cardboard.

On all the card holders that I have made for my own use, I have cemented the back layer of the holders with a cellulose cement, which I had made, and I am beginning to believe that the safest method is to coat the inside of these holes in the card holders with a coating of good cellulose lacquer, but it is a hand-operation at present which would make them expensive, but I believe it will be the ultimate refinement.

I will be glad to hear the results of your tests and observations, as I am always interested in anything which is an improvement.

I am,

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "W. B. Hopkins". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

NSH:B

PHENIX AIRCRAFT PRODUCTS CO.

MANUFACTURERS OF

HIGH GRADE CELLULOSE DOPES,
VARNISHES AND CEMENTS
FOR AIRCRAFT, RADIO AND SPECIAL PURPOSES

5565 MAIN STREET

WILLIAMSVILLE, N.Y., U.S.A.

Jan 2, 1932.

CABLE ADDRESS
"PAPCO"

—
CODES
BENTLEYS
A. B. C. 5TH

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator,
American Numismatic Society,
Broadway at 156th St.,
N. Y. City.

Dear Mr Wood:

Will you kindly mail me two copies of lists of the
Monographs of your Society and of any since last printing.

Is there any English Language publication on German
and Austrian War Decorations and similar Medals?

For Electrolic Cleaning of Coins what is the size of
the Platinum wire used and is a tumbler large enough for the bath?

Were those cardboard Coin Holders I sent Corossive ?

Yours truly,



N. S. Hopkins.

January 7, 1932.

Mr. N. S. Hopkins
Williamsville, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Hopkins:

I am enclosing two lists of our monographs brought up to date. Unfortunately there is no book in the English language on German and Austrian war decorations. As a matter of fact, we have no books here on the very modern ones that take up Germany and Austria, probably because they had no great ambition to do this.

For the electric method of clean coins you can use any size container you want. We did have some large five gallon jars and smaller ones but upstairs in our work room we have two or three oblong glass butter dishes that we bought at the ten cent store that we use to clean a few coins at a time.

The platinum anode we have is a thin disc of platinum about the size of a quarter. As a matter of fact, I think you could use any small piece of platinum and either bend it or twist it into a coil. All that is needed in platinum is what is submerged.

The two or three coin holders that I tried out seemed to work all right. I gave the bulk of them to one of my assistants to take home where the conditions would be the same as with most collectors, that is, in a heated apartment. She left for Greece a short while ago but she didn't say that they had tarnished the coins so I suppose they have worked all right. When she comes back I will try to remember to ask her about them.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

PHENIX AIRCRAFT PRODUCTS CO.
MANUFACTURERS OF
HIGH GRADE CELLULOSE DOPES,
VARNISHES AND CEMENTS
FOR AIRCRAFT, RADIO AND SPECIAL PURPOSES
5565 MAIN STREET
WILLIAMSVILLE, N.Y., U. S. A.

CABLE ADDRESS
"PAPCO"

CODES
BENTLEYS
A. B. C. 5TH

March 11, 1932

American Numismatic Society,
Mr. Sydney P. Noe, Secretary,
Broadway at 155th Street,
New York City.

Dear Mr. Noe:

I am interested to know if my membership entitles me to a copy of the late Monograph on Russian Decorations by Mr. Hazelton.

Mr. Wood
Have you in your collection brass tokens of Nelson Thorson of Omaha, Neb. Mr. Thorson gave me several of these last summer to distribute as I saw fit but do not remember whether I sent your Society a pair or not; if not I will be pleased to send them for your collection.

I am,

Yours very truly,

Nelson S. Hopkins.

NSH:B

Monograph 51

Parcel post
3/14/32 R-

March 13, 1932.

Mr. Nelson S. Hopkins
Phenix Aircraft Products Co.
3365 Main Street
Williamsville, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Hopkins:

Mr. Noe has turned over to me
your letter to him. Mr. Thorson sent us at
the time several of his tokens. I beg to
thank you for thinking of us.

Yesterday we mailed Monograph
No. 51 to you by parcel post.

Very truly yours,

HW:JC

Curator



Corporate Member
American Numismatic Ass'n.

BUFFALO NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

Office of the Treasurer,

BUFFALO, NEW YORK
Jan. 5, 1932.

American Numismatic Society,
Mr. Howland Wood,
Broadway & 156th St.,
N. Y. City.

Gentlemen:

We take pleasure in enclosing the first of our medals
for your collection.

Yours truly

Buffalo Numismatic Association,

W. J. Hopkinson
Treasurer.

January 7, 1933.

Mr. Nelson S. Hopkins
Treasurer
Buffalo Numismatic Association
5565 Main St.
Williamsville, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Hopkins:

We wish to thank you very much
for the club medal which you have sent for the
Society's cabinet.

Very truly yours,

HE:JG

Curator

PHENIX AIRCRAFT PRODUCTS CO.

MANUFACTURERS OF

HIGH GRADE CELLULOSE DOPES,

VARNISHES AND CEMENTS

FOR AIRCRAFT, RADIO AND SPECIAL PURPOSES

5565 MAIN STREET

WILLIAMSVILLE, N. Y., U. S. A.

CABLE ADDRESS

"PAPCO"

CODES

BENTLEYS

A. B. C. 5TH

January 10, 1933

Mr. Holland Woods,
Curator, American Numismatic Society,
156th & Broadway,
New York City.

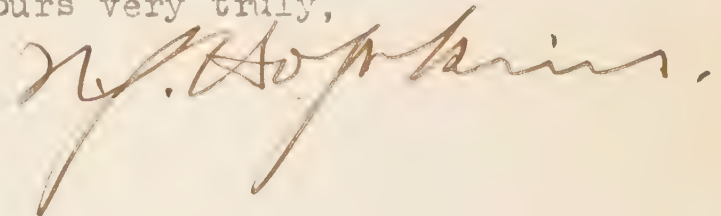
Dear Mr. Woods:

At the Club last night we got into an argument over what should be considered as a "Piece of Eight" of Pirate's phrase, and would appreciate any information that you can give me in a few words.

Are members entitled to any reduction in the price of the monographs issued by the Society, as I may want a couple of the Russian and South American issues. I do not see price listed anywhere of the South American monograph. 300

Thanking you in advance, I am,

Yours very truly,



NSH:B

January 11, 1933.

Mr. Nelson S. Hopkins
5565 Main St.
Williamsville, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Hopkins:

When you come down to it, a piece of eight is any peso, as it is composed of eight reals. Hence the name! I would however never call any coin after the time of Ferdinand VII a "piece of eight" and I think any of the Spanish American pieces up to 1821 can be called that. I don't think there is any authority for limiting the term to the "cobs" of those irregular pieces.

Up to the present time members have not been entitled to any reduction for additional copies of our monographs. However, your question is a proper one and I am laying it before the Council. Our Secretary, Mr. Noe, will write you concerning this. The South American monograph is \$3.00.

Very truly yours,

Hm:JG

Curator

PHENIX AIRCRAFT PRODUCTS CO.

MANUFACTURERS OF

HIGH GRADE CELLULOSE DOPES,
VARNISHES AND CEMENTS
FOR AIRCRAFT, RADIO AND SPECIAL PURPOSES

5565 MAIN STREET

WILLIAMSVILLE, N.Y., U. S. A.

CABLE ADDRESS
"PAPCO"

CODES
BENTLEYS
A. B. C. 5TH

January 27th, 1933

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator,
American Numismatic Society,
Broadway at 166th Street,
New York City.

Dear Mr. Wood:

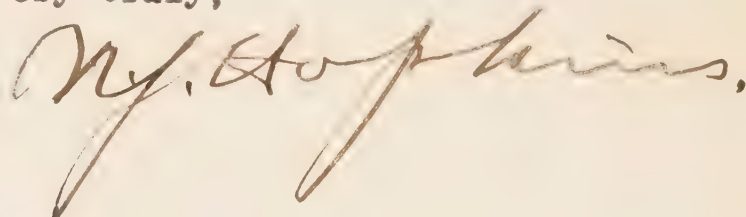
I have your letter of January 11th, regarding Pieces-of-Eight, and very glad to have your opinion. There is still a little question in my mind and that is - would you consider a coin minted in Spain as a Piece-of-Eight, or would it have to have been coined in the Americas.

I had always thought that as the pirates were usually after Spanish shipments of treasures from America to Spain, that a Piece-of-Eight would naturally have to have been coined in mints in the Americas, and could you advise me what American mints were in operation during that period.

I seem to have gotten into an argument as to whether a Spanish minted piece was a Piece-of-Eight, and one of my friends had a Spanish minted piece with a small counter-stamp by British authorities down near the edge, and I would hardly consider it what would be usually considered a Piece-of-Eight, although it may have been counterstamped by some British authority on this side of the Atlantic. *by Melre*

Trusting I am not troubling you too much, I am

Yours very truly,



NSH:B

January 31, 1933.

Mr. N. S. Hopkins
5565 Main St.
Williamsville, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Hopkins:

As I wrote you before, the words "piece of eight" is not a hard and fast definition but I think exactly as you do that the term applies only to those made in this country because they probably got their name from the bucaniers who looted the Spanish galleons and naturally it was the pieces made in America going to Europe that were seized.

The chief mints in the early days were the Potosi mint - then in Peru, now in Bolivia, the Lima mint in Peru and the Mexico City mint; a little later the Guatemala mint and then a little later the Bogota mint. As the Bogota mint did not get seriously going until toward the end of the 18th century it would naturally not figure in the early days of looting but coins from the other four mints would.

As for the counterstamped piece your friend had I do not see any object in calling that a "piece of eight" although naturally it was of eight reales value.

Very truly yours,

HN:JG

Curator

Dear Mr. Woods

Depression or Hard
Times Medal

My Hopkins.

Who sells Kingfisher Medals.
I had one engraved but
want a struck one

Woods

October 6, 1933.

Mr. Nelson S. Hopkins
5565 Main Street
Williamsville, New York.

Dear Mr. Hopkins:

Many thanks for the depression nickels. The Medallie Art Company, 210 East 41st Street, New York City are selling small replicas of the Kingfish medal at twenty-five cents each. These you can get by writing them direct enclosing the money.

I note you say you had one engraved but not struck. We have never heard of this. What do you know about it and where can one be obtained?

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

PHENIX AIRCRAFT PRODUCTS CO.

MANUFACTURERS OF

HIGH GRADE CELLULOSE DOPES,
VARNISHES AND CEMENTS
FOR AIRCRAFT, RADIO AND SPECIAL PURPOSES

5565 MAIN STREET

WILLIAMSVILLE, N.Y., U.S.A.

October 10, 1933

CABLE ADDRESS
"PAPCO"

CODES
BENTLEYS
A. B. C. 5TH

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator,
American Numismatic Society,
Broadway & 156th Street,
New York City.

Dear Mr. Wood:

I thank you for your letter of the 6th and have
sent for several Kingfish Medals.

I had one engraved on a piece of polished zinc
plate and had the design copied from an illustration published
in the Buffalo Evening News which is apparently photographed
by one of the Press Bureaus from the original drawing or model.
The work was done by one of the best flat plate engravers in
Buffalo, and cost me \$2.50. I had the English wording used
instead of the Latin, and have had a great amount of pleasure
in showing it, everybody seems to be interested. It was 1-5/8
wide by 1-7/8 high, and the fine engraving was filled in with a
black lacquer.

I am enclosing a check for \$3.00 for the enclosed
bill of the book ordered by the Buffalo Numismatic Association,
by Mr. Whittall.

I am,

Yours truly,

N. S. Hopkins

NSH:B



Corporate Member
American Numismatic Association

BUFFALO NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

Founded May 13, 1927

HEADQUARTERS
CENTRAL BRANCH Y. M. C. A.
BUFFALO, N. Y.

Office of the

Williamsville, N.Y.
February 2, 1934

Mr. Howland Wood,
Curator of American Numismatic Society,
Broadway & 156th Street
New York City.

Dear Mr. Wood:

I have looked through your book on West India coins, in the hopes of finding something in reference to coins with a hole in them, as illustrated in the attached clipping by Mr. Mosher, but could not find any reference to Prince Edward Islands.

Were coins ever issued or punched with a hole in them for the Prince Edward Islands, and any information will be appreciated.

I am enclosing an impression of a small gold dollar size coin, which has a ring around it and would ask if you can advise me if these were issued in 1849 or were they a subsequent souvenir. I have looked through what books I had as I felt sure that I had seen a similar coin illustrated and am under the impression that it was a private issue of the early days.

Does it appear that all of the known 1804 Silver Dollars were struck from the same dies or were they from different dies. I could not notice any difference in the illustration of four of them in the 1914 collection book, and they all seem to be about Mint condition. Are any of these illustrated in any other publication.

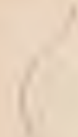
I am,

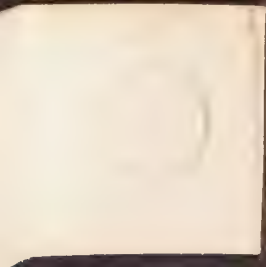
Yours truly,

W. J. Hopkins

NSH:B

Please return Clipping.







February 5, 1934.

Mr. Nelson J. Hopkins
5565 Main St.
Williamsville, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Hopkins:

Certain Spanish dollars with the round hole punched out just shy of $\frac{5}{8}$ of an inch have been assigned to the Prince Edward Islands. Most of them come with a small counterstamp with a circle about $\frac{1}{8}$ of an inch with ten rays. Sometimes an additional stamp of a crowned V in oval is found in addition. These I have discovered since I wrote my book. I am enclosing your newspaper clipping.

The small gold dollar is nothing but a modern charm sold in novelty and curio shops. This was never made in 1849. You will find that there are two reverses shown of the 1804 dollar in our special catalogue. Obverses are all alike. Just where there are other illustrations I could not say except you will find several in illustrated auction catalogues chiefly by the Chapmans.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

PHENIX AIRCRAFT PRODUCTS CO.

MANUFACTURERS OF

HIGH GRADE CELLULOSE DOPES,
VARNISHES AND CEMENTS
FOR AIRCRAFT, RADIO AND SPECIAL PURPOSES

5565 MAIN STREET

WILLIAMSVILLE, N. Y., U. S. A.

Feb. 11, 1935.

CABLE ADDRESS
"PAPCO"

CODES
BENTLEYS
A. B. C. 5TH

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator,
American Numismatic Society,
Broadway & 155th St.,
N. Y. City.

Dear Mr. Wood:

I have been much interested in many of the older White Metal Medals that have been issued and which have retained their original whiteness or metallic luster and would ask if you could advise me as to the composition and proportions, what the name of the composition was or who makes a similar compound today. I have tried several but am not satisfied.

What is the best wood to use for coin Cabinets that will not tarnish or discolor coins?

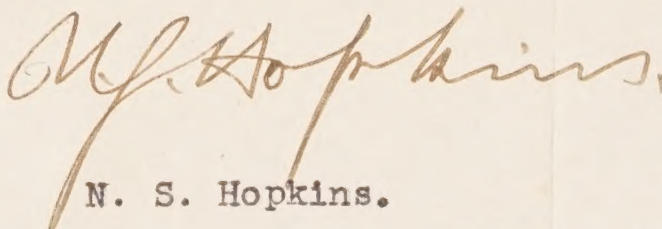
Who is apt to handle most of the new foreign coins as they are issued?

Have I sent you the Buffalo N. A. Tokens for 1927-28-33- & 34?

What old cities of Mexico, Central America, & South America and Spain Coined Spanish Silver Coins? And what were their markings or mint marks?

I hope I am not overloading you with a lot of labor, but will appreciate any information you can furnish. I am,

Yours truly,


N. S. Hopkins.

February 15, 1935.

Mr. Nelson S. Hopkins
5565 Main Street
Williamsville, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Hopkins:

I really cannot help you on the composition of white metal medals. I have sometimes wondered myself just the specific alloy used. Certain ones made in Europe and this country seventy-five or fifty years ago have retained their lustre and surface qualities in wonderful shape, possibly because they were struck on highly polished flans. Older ones have become dull and in many instances have deteriorated. Of course the chief composition of these medals is lead and tin. The early English and European ones and especially those with a copper plug inserted had more tin than did ours made one hundred years ago. Ours seem to be much more of a lead composition. I do not know where to tell you to write to find out. You might make an inquiry of the Whitehead and Hoag Company, Newark, N. J.

I should say the best wood for coin cabinets would be a soft wood, rather than a hard wood, a wood free from pitch and well seasoned and dried. The best cabinets that I have seen free from warping have been made of mahogany or black walnut. Also, I have seen most excellent drawers made of white wood or white pine. Drawers made of oak and other hard woods seem to warp. My advice would be any good wood used in furniture would be satisfactory.

There is no one in this country who handles new foreign coins. We get most of our new issues from Spink & Son, 5, 6 & 7 King St., St. James's, S. W. 1, London, England.

You have not sent any Buffalo N. A. tokens and I cannot find we have any of the years 1927, 1928, 1933 and 1934. I am herewith enclosing a list of the various Spanish mints in this country.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

PHENIX AIRCRAFT PRODUCTS CO.

MANUFACTURERS OF

HIGH GRADE CELLULOSE DOPES,

VARNISHES AND CEMENTS

FOR AIRCRAFT, RADIO AND SPECIAL PURPOSES

5565 MAIN STREET

WILLIAMSVILLE, N. Y., U. S. A.

Feb. 25, 1935.

CABLE ADDRESS
"PAPCO"

CODES
BENTLEYS
A. B. C. 5TH

American Numismatic Society,
Mr. Howland Wood, Curator,
Broadway & 155th St.,
N. Y. City.

Gentlemen:

Referring to the last paragraph of your letter of 15th the Buffalo Numismatic Association takes pleasure in forwarding to you by mail two each of their Tokens of the years 1927-1928- 1933-1934 for your Collection. As you do not mention 1932 we assume you have a pair of these, if not kindly advise the writer and a pair will be sent you.

Yours truly,

Buffalo Numismatic Association,

N. S. Hopkins
Treasurer,

February 28, 1935.

Mr. Nelson S. Hopkins
5565 Main Street
Williamsville, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Hopkins:

Many thanks for the Buffalo
Numismatic Association tokens that you sent
on to us. We do have the 1932 ones. Again
thanking you, I remain

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator